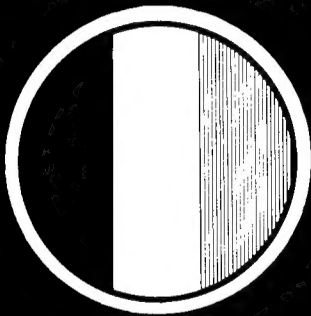


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UNITED STATES ARMY TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND

TRADOC BULLETIN 6



- **WEAPONS**
- **TACTICS**
- **TRAINING**

**COUNTERSURVEILLANCE
AND
CAMOUFLAGE**

30 JANUARY 1976

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*** ARMY TRAINING AND EVALUATION PROGRAM**

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**UNITED STATES ARMY
TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND
BULLETIN NO. 6**

COUNTERSURVEILLANCE AND CAMOUFLAGE

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This TRADOC BULLETIN is intended to provide to commanders, and others concerned with military training, timely information on weapons, tactics, and training. It is not intended to supplant doctrinal publications, but to supplement material on "how to fight" with data derived from tests, recent intelligence, or other sources.

TRAINERS' NOTE: The format of this bulletin is designed to help trainers identify and extract needed information. TASO's have master copies of the diagrams and pictures in this bulletin, from which you can order slides for use in unit schools or other training.

Comment or criticism is welcome, and should be directed to:

**COMMANDER
US ARMY TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND
ATTN; ATTN-CON (TEL: AUTOVON 680-2972/3153
FORT MONROE, VIRGINIA 23651**

I

INTRODUCTION

To be seen is to be hit! To be hit is to be killed! These are truths of modern warfare borne out by an evaluation of weapons capabilities exhibited in the Yom Kippur War.

CAMOUFLAGE PROTECTS

Historical examples of the importance of camouflage abound. A classic case is the concentration of Russian troops into striking positions around Stalingrad. The large distances involved and the many routes over which the Russians could move were points in their favor. But they expanded those advantages through tight mail censorship, artful camouflage of positions and equipment, and stringent radio discipline. To the north of Stalingrad, forests were used to help conceal movement. In the south the Russian commander, General Yeremenko, by moving only at night and hiding vehicles under piles of branches or grass thatch covers during the day, was able to move his units across the open steppes undetected. The operation was so successful that after the war General Jodl, the German Chief of Operations stated, "We had absolutely no idea of the strength of the Russian forces in this area. Prior to this there had been nothing in the area, and suddenly a thrust of enormous force, of decisive significance." *The Russians have not forgotten this lesson. They habitually employ camouflage with a high level of discipline to the present day.*

A more recent occurrence shows how camouflage may be combined with deception on a large scale for effective results. In the 1973 Mid-East War, the Arab forces made extensive use of camouflage nets. Israeli pilots were able to report hitting nets, but it was not clear what was destroyed: a SAM — or an empty net.

In both examples hostilities had already been in progress, but it is even more critical that we be strongly camouflage-conscious **before** war breaks out to insure that we **win the first battle!**

Learning to hit a target is only part of a soldier's training. Learning to avoid becoming a target is another important part.

CAMOUFLAGE MUST BE A STATE OF MIND

The leader seeks concealment. Knowing that what the enemy can see he can hit and kill, the leader tries, by every means available, to prevent the enemy from spotting his force. He understands that the enemy has eyes in the skies as well as on the ground. He knows that for survival on the modern battlefield, **camouflage must be a state of mind, a skill reduced to unconscious habit**—every man practicing camouflage, noise, and light discipline. The leader seeks concealment for his unit in trees and bushes, amid grass and crops, in buildings and other structures, and in the play of light and shadow. When natural concealment does not exist, he creates it artificially by erecting camouflage, or using smoke. He understands that darkness offers concealment from observation by the unaided eye, but knows that the enemy possesses night vision devices capable of penetrating the darkness out to the range of his weapons, and acts accordingly: cover and concealment are as important at night as in the daytime.

The leader knows that he must always work to minimize the vulnerability of his unit — **CAMOUFLAGE MINIMIZES VULNERABILITY**. Commanders always seek cover and concealment for their force — **CAMOUFLAGE PROVIDES CONCEALMENT**.

In modern warfare there are many surveillance devices which operate throughout the spectrum—not just in the visual range. The soldier must counter a wide array of methods of surveillance to avoid detection, suppression and destruction.

At the same time that the sophisticated methods are being countered, **THE FUNDAMENTALS OF CAMOUFLAGE MUST BE OBSERVED**. If they are not observed, the advantage gained by countering the elaborate devices will be overcome by the exposure caused by basic violations.

PURPOSE

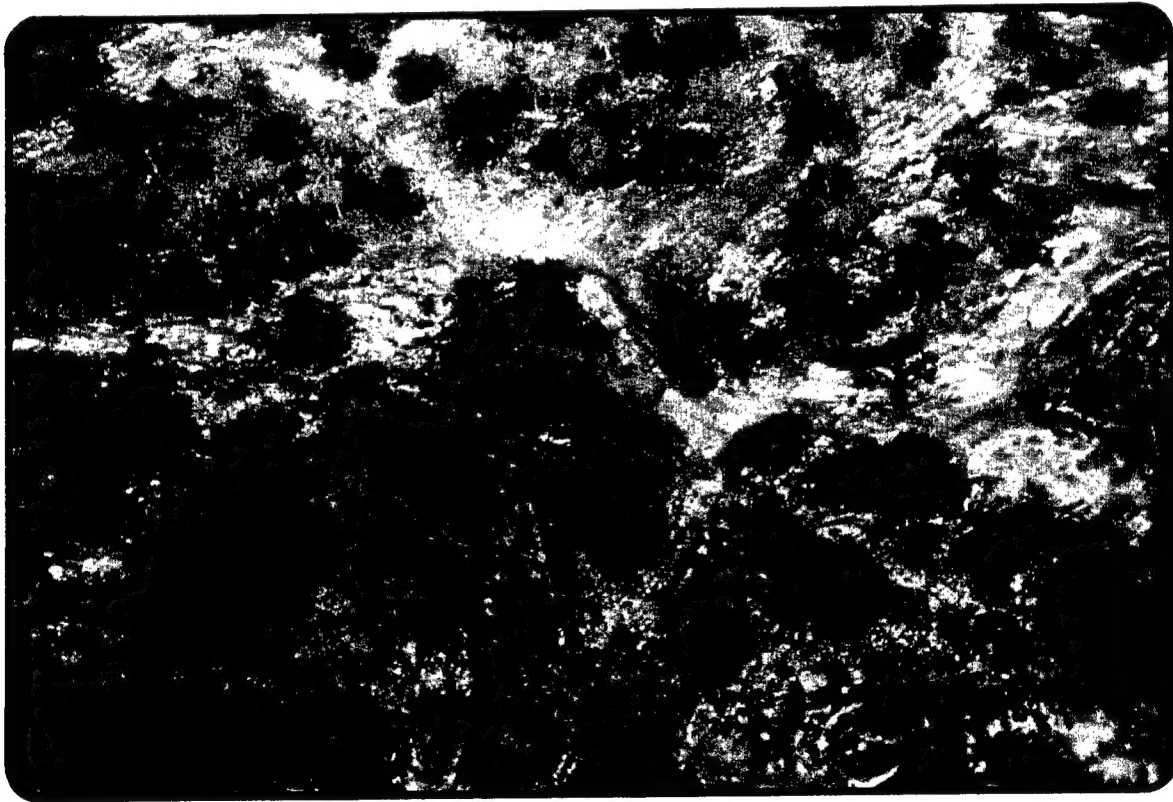
This booklet describes the advantages of camouflage techniques and materials such as pattern painting, improved camouflage paint, and the lightweight screening system. It shows graphically and explains why these materials and techniques give superior protection. It discusses the principles the commander must employ to avoid detection by enemy visual (including photographic, and image-intensifying night vision means), infrared (including illuminated, photographic, and thermal imaging means), and radar devices. It highlights the use of smoke as a camouflage measure and reemphasizes the importance of adhering to camouflage fundamentals and maintaining camouflage discipline.

II THE BASICS

All the advantages gained by sophisticated techniques can be offset by one gross violation of fundamentals or one lapse in discipline.

Individuals or units without the more sophisticated counter-surveillance equipment can still provide themselves a significant level of protection by application of fundamental camouflage measures.

The importance of observing fundamentals and avoiding gross violations is illustrated in figure 1 below. A brigade command post is well hidden except that one late arriving vehicle has "blown the cover".



WELL CAMOUFLAGED BRIGADE COMMAND POST WITH ONE UNCAMOUFLAGED VEHICLE

Figure 1

UNITS THAT EMPLOY THE SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES BUT DISREGARD THE FUNDAMENTALS OF SITING AND DISCIPLINE WILL BE DETECTED.

Some gross violations that can get you in trouble include:

- white t-shirts
- trash
- uncamouflaged vehicles

• The battlefield itself must be camouflaged too. Spoil around foxholes, litter, and uncontrolled vehicle tracks will make other attempts at camouflage a useless waste of time and effort.



MESS HALL, TRUCK AND SOLDIERS IN OPEN — SHINY GI CANS AND THERMOS JUGS.

Figure 2

The fundamental principles of camouflage must be observed.

The eye is still the most numerous and responsive sensor on the battlefield. Therefore, camouflage must first seek to confuse the eye.

The basic way to confuse the eye of the observer is by countering the factors of recognition from which he derives his information.

(1) **Color** provides contrast between an object and its background. Generally lighter, brighter shades attract more attention than darker shades. Use of colors that blend in with the surroundings is probably the most basic of the fundamentals of camouflage.

(2) **Shape** provides the distinctive outlines of well known objects. Because shapes have become familiar through experience, the object can be identified long before all its details are identified. Guns, tanks (even individual soldiers) all have characteristic shapes which must be hidden or disguised as part of camouflage.

(3) **Texture** is the relative smoothness or roughness of a surface and it affects how much light an object reflects or absorbs and whether it appears light or dark. Lack of texture causes shine, which is extremely revealing. Attainment of proper texture is critical in field camouflage operations.

(4) **Movement** is dangerous, not so much because it allows identification, but rather because it attracts the attention of the observer. The eye responds to motion even when not looking directly at the moving object. Obviously the unit can't remain motionless and accomplish the mission in many cases, but unnecessary and careless movement is a definite breach of camouflage discipline.

(5) **Position** is the relative space relation of an object to its surroundings. Generally this applies to large objects such as a barge parallel to a river bank. In forward unit situations, position will be countered by good siting.

(6) **Shadow** is principally a projection of shape. Shadow is primarily detected by aerial observation, and in a fast-moving tactical situation will normally be countered by those measures which counter shape.

These identifiers are countered by proper siting, pattern painting, the lightweight screening system and smoke, as well as by adherence to camouflage fundamentals.

III THREATS

There are four areas where a serious surveillance threat exists.





	VISUAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your unit can be seen at great distances
	INFRARED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It can be detected and/or photographed using infrared devices
	THERMAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The thermal emissions (heat) of engines, stoves or generators can be detected
	RADAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Movement and some stationary installations can be detected by radar
FOUR THREAT AREAS		

Figure 3

It should be noted that within the four serious threat groups above there are more than four threats. As figure 4 below points out, the visual consists of not only the naked eye but also photography and some night vision devices. Measures which defeat the eye will also defeat these particular devices.

For maximum effectiveness all the threats should be countered. If any one of the surveillance threats is not protected against, the unit must be considered fully exposed.

Techniques and materials discussed in this bulletin counter three of these serious threat areas. The thermal surveillance threat is not as significant as the other three.





SURVEILLANCE THREAT			ENEMY CAPABILITY	METHOD OF COUNTERING
VISUAL		NAKED EYE, CONVENTIONAL PHOTO, SOME NIGHT VISION DEVICES (IMAGE INTENSIFIERS)	YES	PATTERN PAINTING, LIGHTWEIGHT SCREEN SYSTEM, SMOKE
INFRARED		INFRARED PHOTO, IR SEARCHLIGHT	YES	IMPROVED PAINT, LSS, SMOKE
THERMAL		THERMAL IMAGING, (SOME NIGHT VISION DEVICES)	POSSIBLE	UNDER DEVELOPMENT
RADAR		RADAR	YES	LSS
HIGH THREAT AREAS — ENEMY CAPABILITIES AND COUNTERMEASURES				

Figure 4

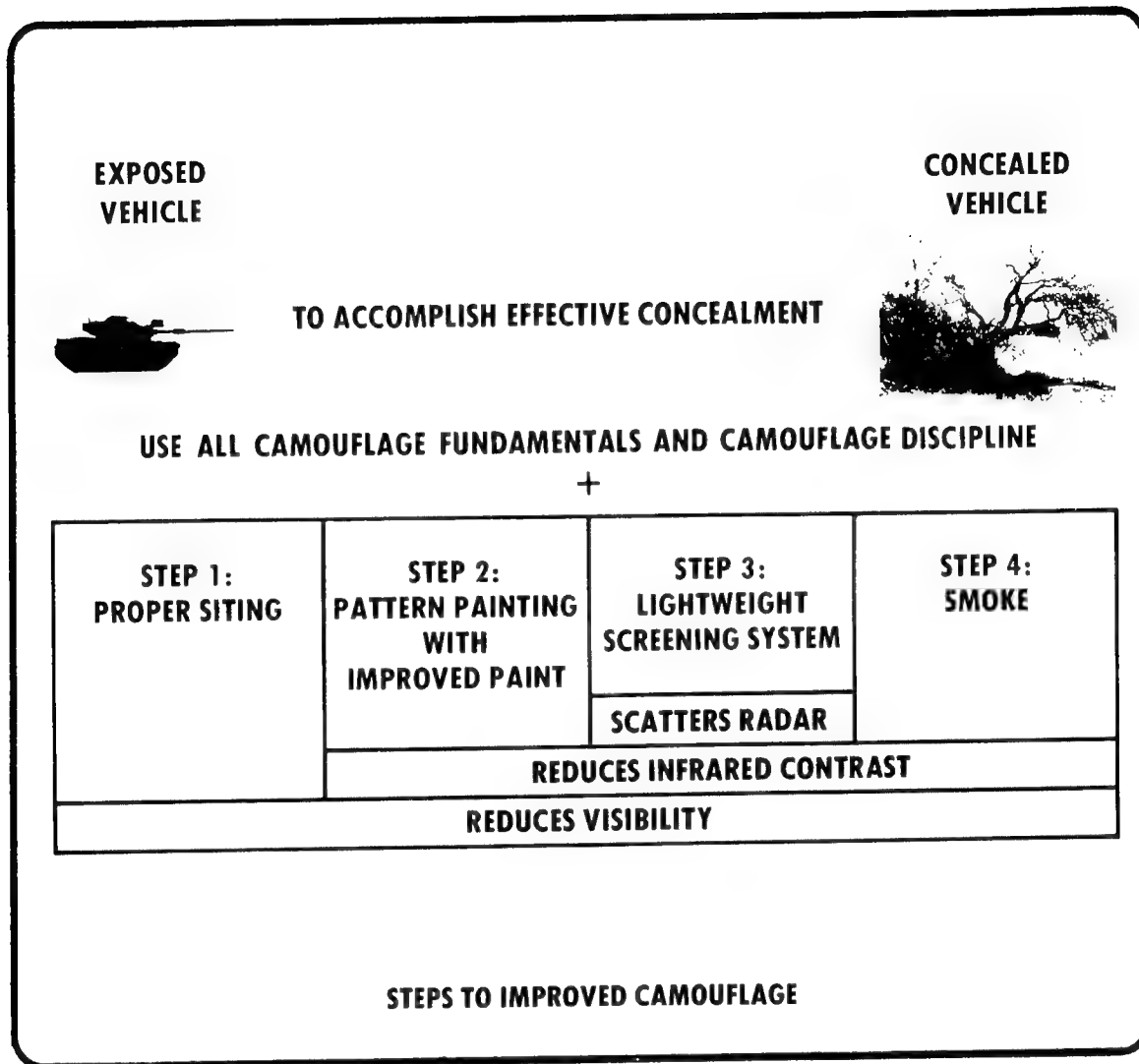


Figure 5

Here is how the protective measures are employed and how these measures protect against different types of surveillance.

Now the successive steps will be considered one-by-one—

IV PROPER SITING

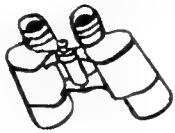



PROPER SITING COUNTERS		
	VISUAL	X
	INFRARED	X
	THERMAL	X
	RADAR	X

Figure 6

We use terrain for fighting advantage; the leader must expand that advantage through careful siting of men, vehicles and equipment and through artful camouflage.

Proper siting is the first big step. It reduces the level of visibility and causes a great reduction in further camouflage effort. Proper siting simply means carefully fitting each soldier, each vehicle, each tent, into the natural nooks and crannies of the terrain and foliage. Clever positioning in itself often offers significant cover and usually offers significant concealment.

V PATTERN PAINTING



PROPERLY SITED, PATTERN PAINTED VEHICLE

Figure 7

WHY IS THE ARMY PATTERN PAINTING ITS VEHICLES?

PATTERN PAINTING:

- Reduces the factors of recognition of shape, shadow, and color (shown with figure 7 in conjunction with good siting)
- Diminishes the threshold of visibility (shown by figure 9)
- Most effective in static positions
- Tends to disrupt aiming points on a moving target
- Enhances the psychological level of camouflage awareness among the individuals using pattern painted equipment





PATTERN PAINTING (WITH IMPROVED PAINT) COUNTERS		
	VISUAL	X
	INFRARED	X
	THERMAL	
	RADAR	

Figure 8

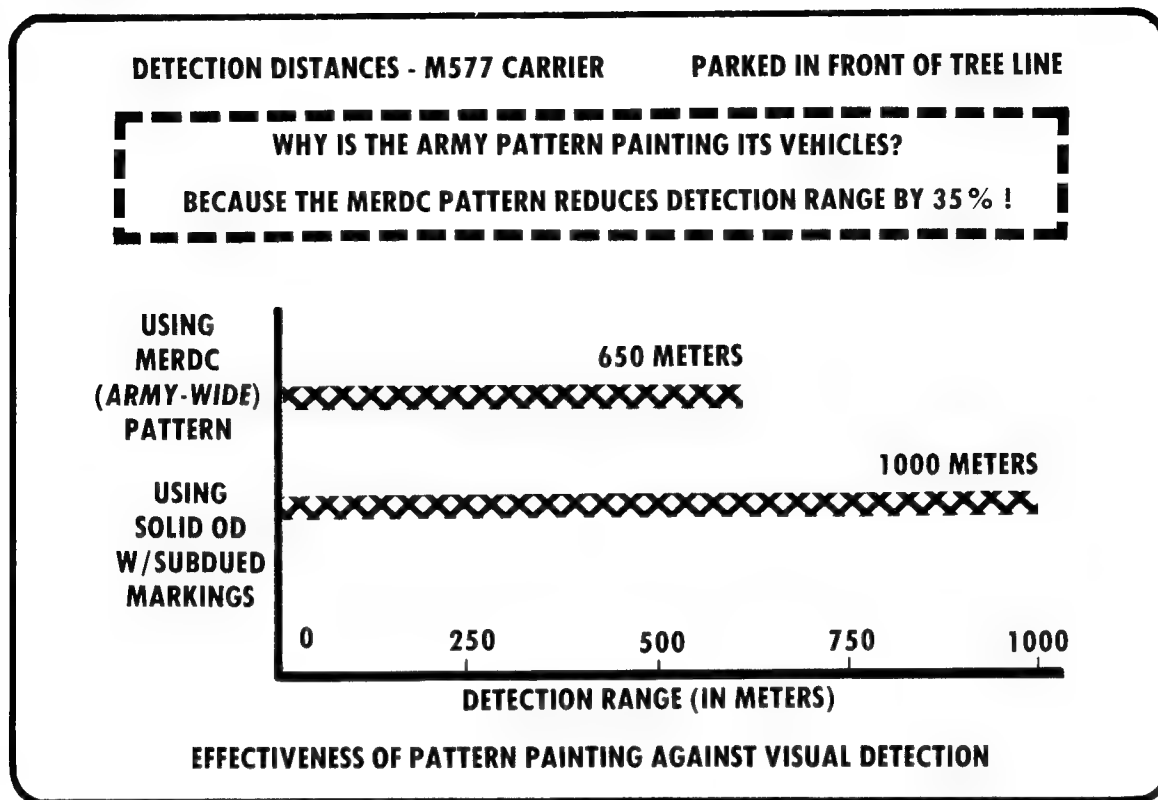


Figure 9

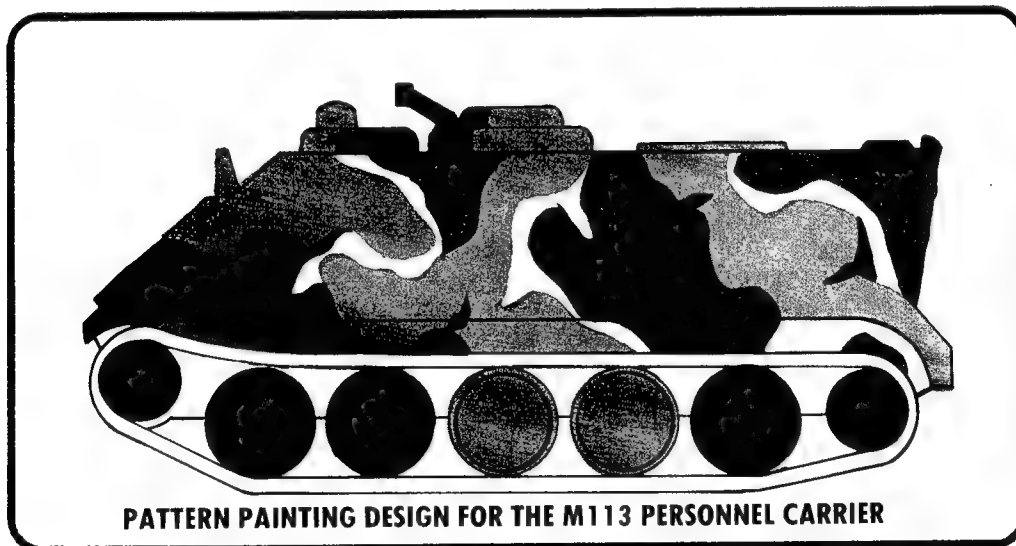


Figure 10

Pattern painted vehicles blend in well with the background and can hide longer (shorter detection range) than those painted a solid subdued color. The pattern shown above is available at the Training Aids Support Office (TASO).

IMPROVED CAMOUFLAGE PAINT

No matter how good a pattern may be, if it is applied with ordinary paint it only provides protection against **visual detection**. A key point of the DA directed pattern painting program is that the new patterns, applied with improved camouflage paint, protect against **infrared detection** devices as well.

Figure 11 shows how camouflage paint matches the reflectance levels of the vegetated terrain background not only in the visible but also the infrared portion of the spectrum. If a photo is taken on IR film the vegetation will appear pink. Because the reflectance of the camouflage paint is close to that of the background, the painted item will appear a similar shade of pink. Figure 12 illustrates this point. Since the reflectance of ordinary paint is so different (figure 11) an ordinary painted item would stand out like a sore thumb, appearing dark on the pink background. This same protection applies against black and white infrared photos and images.

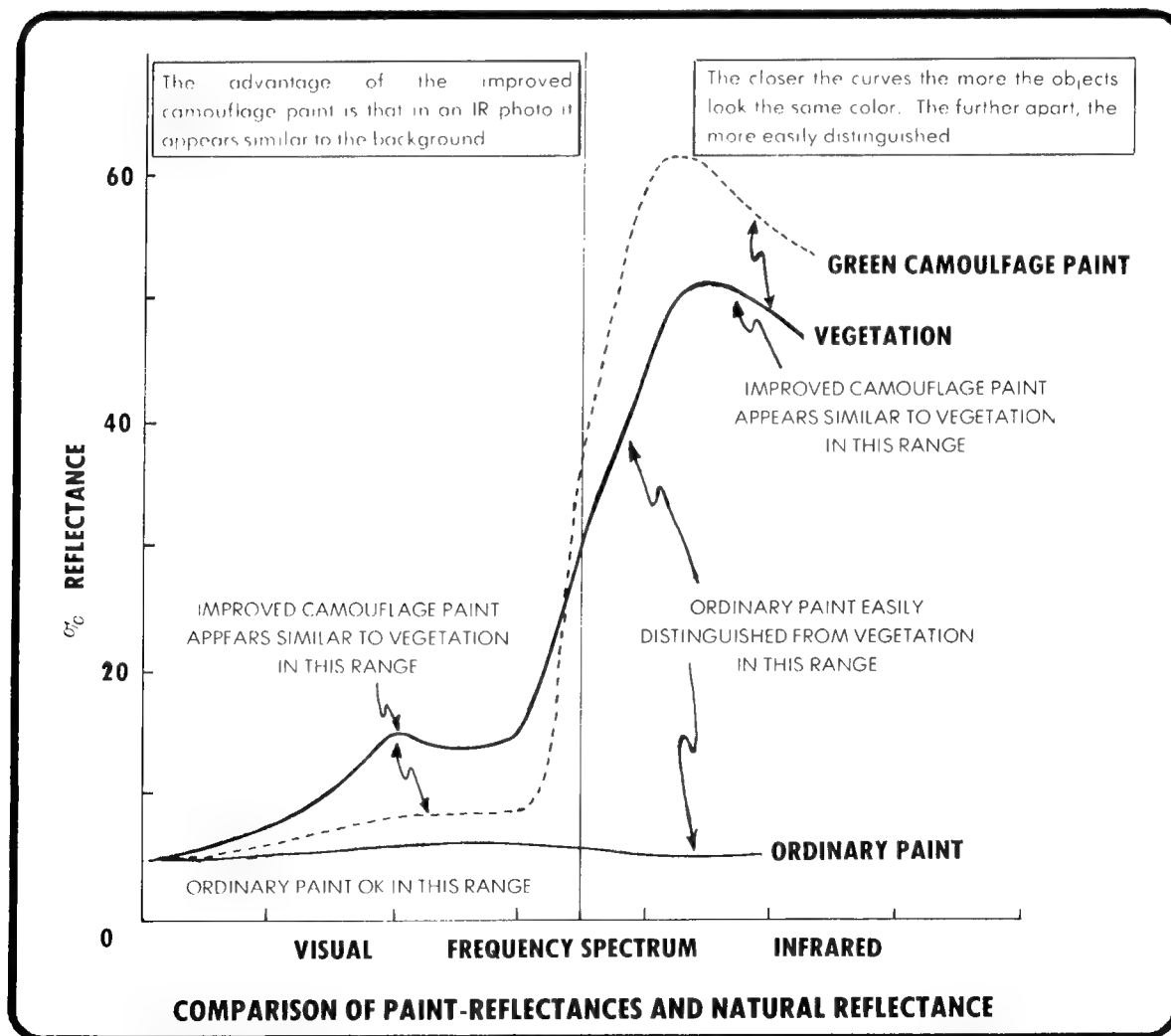
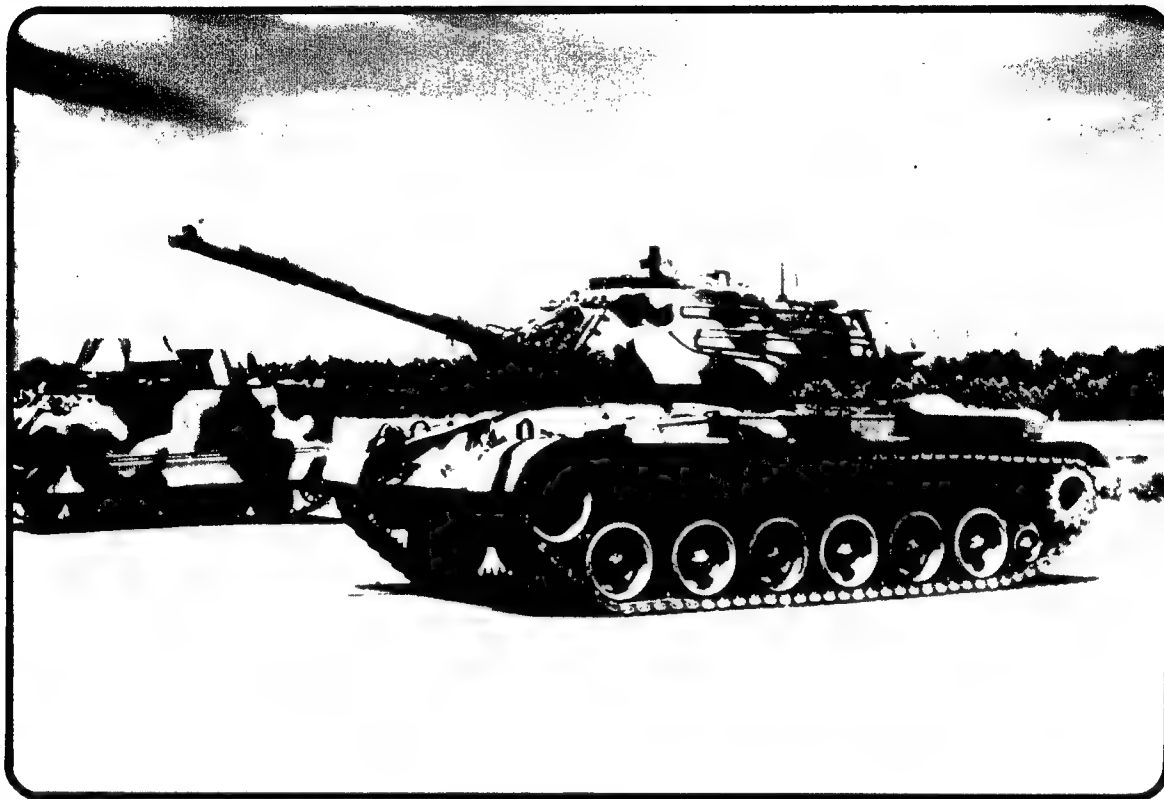


Figure 11



INFRARED PHOTOGRAPH OF PATTERN PAINTED VEHICLE





Figure 12

Note. This figure does not show best siting. Its purpose is to show the similarity between the IR reflectance of the tank and the vegetation.

Special chemical components have been added to each color of camouflage paint so that the correct match of both the visual and infrared reflectance is achieved. *If camouflage paints are mixed to obtain a special color, the desired visual effect may be achieved but the protective infrared reflectance matching properties will be destroyed.*

VI LIGHTWEIGHT SCREENING SYSTEM

The burlap nets are being replaced by a new light plastic net—the lightweight screening system (LSS), which gives better protection. The LSS is in production now for issue to the field.

TYPE OF THREAT		PROTECTION PROVIDED	
		OLD NETS	NEW LSS
	VISUAL	YES	YES
	INFRARED	YES	YES
	THERMAL	NO	NO
	RADAR	NO	YES

**COMPARISON OF PROTECTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF OLD NETS
AND LIGHTWEIGHT SCREENING SYSTEM (LSS)**

Figure 13

A well-sited, pattern-painted vehicle will have its level of camouflage further enhanced by erecting the lightweight screening system. The LSS further reduces visibility. The LSS also defeats radar by scattering and absorption. Stainless steel fibers in the plastic garnish material absorb some of the radar signal and reflect most of the remaining signal in all directions. The result is only a small percentage of the signal returns to the radar for detection.



LSS EMPLOYED

Figure 14

Note: This figure does not show the best siting. The LSS has been purposely put out in the open so it can be seen.

Since a radar scattering net placed over a radar set would make the set useless, the LSS also comes in a radar transparent model so that a radar set can be covered and hidden, but still "see" through the screen.

Remember! Use the radar scattering LSS on everything except radar sets. Use the radar transparent LSS on radar sets.

The LSS has many advantages over the "old" camouflage nets. It is:

- lighter weight
- more durable
- reversible (seasonal)
- less of a logistical problem

The LSS lasts 4 to 12 times as long in the field and it weighs about 1/3 as much when wet.

The LSS applies modular construction (diamond-shaped and hexagonal components are combined until the desired size and shape is achieved), and there are only two sizes of screen.

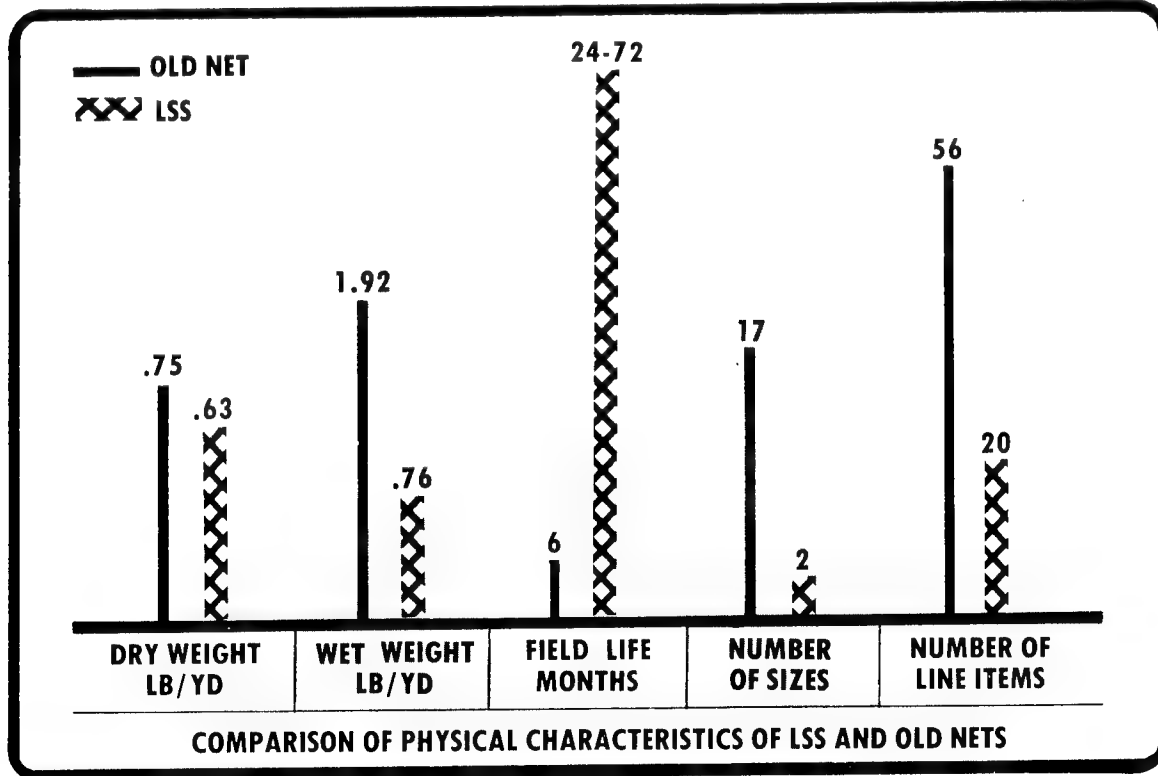






Figure 15

TYPE OF THREAT		METHODS OF COUNTERING		
		FUNDAMENTALS AND PROPER SITING	PATTERN PAINTING	LSS
	VISUAL	X	X	X
	INFRARED	X	X	X
	THERMAL	X		
	RADAR	X		X

SUMMARY OF PASSIVE COUNTERMEASURES





Figure 16

To this point we have discussed specific countermeasures against three of the four serious surveillance threats shown in figure 4. The fourth serious threat, thermal imaging, is presently in the non-protected part of the spectrum, but a countermeasure is currently under development. Since thermal imaging devices measure the heat given off by the target, the way to hide is to try to match the temperature of the surroundings as closely as possible. Development is in progress for a light fabric to be suspended as a "false ceiling" beneath the lightweight camouflage screen. Its large surface area and low weight will diffuse the heat emitted by the target so that its thermal signature will be effectively blended in with the surroundings. Until this device is fielded, the best measures that can now be used against thermal imaging are:

- stay under cover
- garnish with natural vegetation

VII SMOKE

Smoke is an ACTIVE countermeasure. Commanders should plan to use smoke to protect their units from surveillance.

SMOKE COUNTERS		
	VISUAL	X
	INFRARED	X
	THERMAL	
	RADAR	

Currently available smokes are effective against the visual and part of the infrared range. They are ineffective against radar. Research efforts are planned to develop smoke which will be effective over wider spectral ranges. Also under development are smokes colored to blend in with the surroundings, as contrasted to the current gray or white smokes. Another factor favoring the use of smoke is its flexibility of employment. It can be placed on the enemy surveillance device, on the target, or in between as the situation dictates.

Figure 17

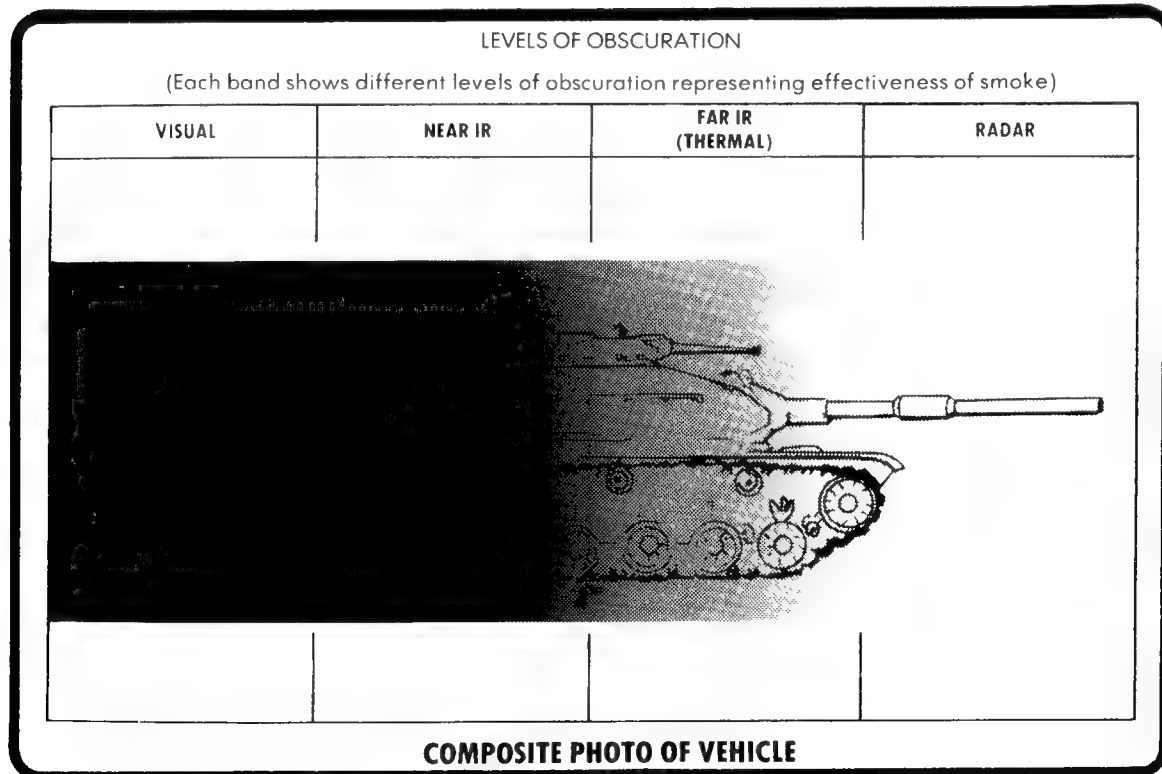






Figure 18





VIII SUMMARY

The 1973 Mid-East War showed the deadly power and accuracy of modern weaponry fully engaged. The camouflage developments discussed in this bulletin, together with the application of basic principles, and the enforcement of camouflage discipline are part of the knowledge necessary to survive. Camouflage will help to win the first battle on the deadlier than ever battlefield.





FUNDAMENTALS AND PROPER SITING COUNTER

	VISUAL	X
	INFRARED	X
	THERMAL	X
	RADAR	X





PATTERN PAINTING COUNTERS

	VISUAL	X
	INFRARED	X
	THERMAL	
	RADAR	

LSS COUNTERS

	VISUAL	X
	INFRARED	X
	THERMAL	
	RADAR	X

SMOKE COUNTERS

	VISUAL	X
	INFRARED	X
	THERMAL	
	RADAR	

- The eye is the most numerous and responsive sensor on the battlefield. Camouflage must defeat the eye.

- Units and individuals that pay attention to the fundamentals — those for whom CAMOUFLAGE IS A STATE OF MIND — can avoid detection.

- Units that also adhere to requirements for PROPER SITING, have PATTERN PAINTED equipment, use the LIGHTWEIGHT SCREENING SYSTEM, and use SMOKE when an active measure is needed, will greatly increase their chance of avoiding detection.

Further Reading — A Guide to Camouflage Literature

As the importance of camouflage is being emphasized, the literature of camouflage is being revitalized. **FM 5-20 "CAMOUFLAGE"** is being revised by the Command and General Staff College and will be published as **FM 100-25 "CAMOUFLAGE AND COUNTERSURVEILLANCE."** This will be the basic doctrinal manual. Many of the specific techniques of camouflage, as employed by those same front-line units for whom this bulletin has discussed the principles, will be covered in the revision of **TM 5-200, "CAMOUFLAGE MATERIALS."** This manual will not only update material development but will also contain discussion of larger-scale, more specialized camouflage tasks performed by engineers rather than maneuver units. The camouflage literature is completed by **TC 21-75, "DON'T GET HIT,"** a booklet for the individual soldier, recently published by the Combined Arms Training Board, and **TC 5-200, "CAMOUFLAGE PATTERN PAINTING,"** which contains the instructions for the initial pattern painting of Army vehicles.

This bulletin was prepared by the US Army Engineer School. If as a result of reading this bulletin, there is more you'd like to know or if you have an idea to share, address your comments to:

Commandant
US Army Engineer School
ATTN: ATSE-CTD-DT-TL
Fort Belvoir, Virginia 22060

TRAINERS NOTE:

Each TASO has master copies of the diagrams and pictures in this Bulletin, from which you can order slides for use in schools or other training.

IX APPENDIX—HOW TO ORDER TRADOC BULLETINS (The next few pages are a reproduction of DA Cir 310-68)

CIRCULAR

No. 310-68

HEADQUARTERS
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Washington, DC, 15 October 1974

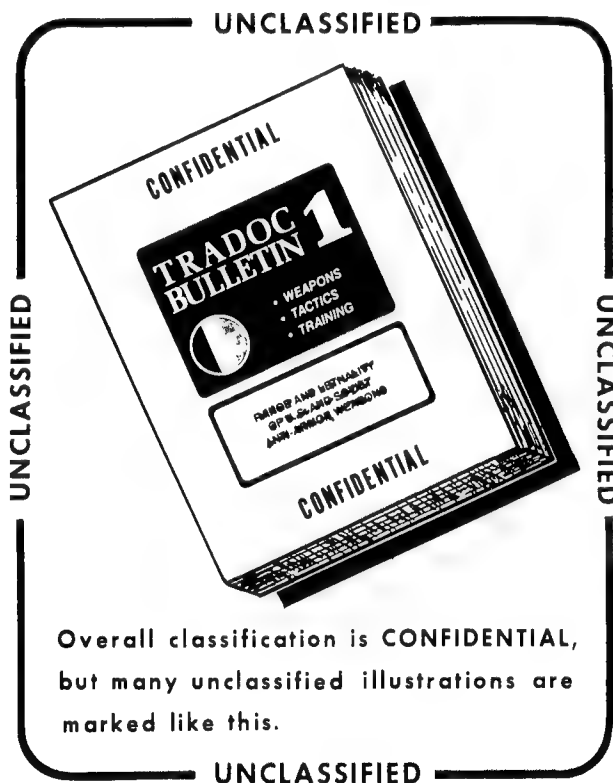
MILITARY PUBLICATIONS

TRADOC BULLETINS

1. Introduction. Department of the Army announces a new series of publications called TRADOC Bulletins. This circular explains the purpose, applicability and distribution of all TRADOC Bulletins and prescribes the procedure for ordering them. TRADOC Bulletin Number 1 is now being published. Subsequent issues are to be printed in FY 75 and following years.

2. Purpose. A series of TRADOC Bulletins will be published by HQ TRADOC to provide commanders timely technical information on weapons, tactics and training technique. It is not intended to supplant doctrinal publications, but to supplement material on "How to fight" with data derived from tests, recent intelligence, or other sources, which probe "why?"

3. Example. TRADOC Bulletin Number 1, illustrated here, was published to disseminate key data on anti-tank warfare assembled from studies, tests, reports, lessons learned and other TRADOC sources. It vividly describes why and how we must orient our training to meet potential threats on any future battlefield.



4. Applicability. TRADOC Bulletins are developed by Headquarters, TRADOC using the most comprehensive and current military and civilian data available. Army Training and Evaluation Programs (ARTEP), Field Manuals (FM) and Training Circulars (TC) will continue to be the primary training references. TRADOC Bulletins will supplement them with an explanation of why we are training in a given manner. TRADOC Bulletins should enable commanders to better stimulate and motivate subordinates to understand why we train the way we do.

5. Distribution

a. **TRADOC Bulletin Number 1.** The AG Publications Center will distribute TRADOC Bulletin Number 1 to all battalion and higher level commanders. Those who have not received a copy by 16 December 1974 should submit a DA Form 17 (Request for Publications and Blank Forms) to the US Army AG Publications Center, 2800 Eastern Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21220.

b. **Index of Series.** TRADOC Bulletins will be cataloged in DA Pamphlet 310-3, "Index of Doctrinal, Training and Organizational Publications." The series will be numbered consecutively and each TRADOC Bulletin will be announced at time of printing in the information bulletin distributed to all pinpoint account holders by the US Army AG Publications Center.

c. **Permanent Distribution.** Pinpoint account holders receiving TRADOC Bulletin Number 1 from Baltimore will automatically receive two copies of all subsequent issues unless a DA Form 12-11B is submitted to change that quantity. **A return addressed excerpt of DA Form 12-11B is provided at page 23 for use by those desiring to change that quantity and for others desiring to be added to the permanent distribution list for TRADOC Bulletins.** Units which are required to submit publication requests through another headquarters should send the completed excerpt through proper authority.

d. **Reference for Distribution Procedures.** DA Pamphlet 310-10 explains the pinpoint distribution system and how to establish or update an existing account at the US Army AG Publications Center.

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W. E. DePUY
General, United States Army
Commanding

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